

Iowa Department of Human Services

Jerry R. Foxhoven Director



Jerry R. Foxhoven became director of the Iowa Department of Human Services in June 2017.

Foxhoven began practicing law in 1977 with a strong emphasis on trial practice in criminal and civil law. He was also extensively involved in juvenile and family law cases until 2000 when he began as administrator for the lowa Child Advocacy Board. In this role, he was responsible for developing and implementing personnel policies, strategic planning and public policy advocacy. While in this position, he was also director of two separate child welfare advocacy programs: Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) and Iowa Citizen Foster Care Review Board programs.

In 2006, Foxhoven became director of the Joan & Lyle Middleton Center for Children's Rights, a state and national advocacy center focusing on children's rights issues. Around the same time, he joined Drake Law School as a clinical professor. He instructed juvenile law for third-year law students in a clinical setting, supervising students in juvenile court proceedings and in the Legislative Practice Program as they drafted bills and lobbied for passage of bills pertaining to issues involving youth.

Most recently, Foxhoven served as executive director of Clinical Programs and Professor of Law at Drake University's School of Law. There, he supervised a number of administrative responsibilities relating to the school.

Foxhoven has authored a number of articles and given hundreds of presentations throughout Iowa and the country. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Morningside College in 1974 and earned his Juris Doctor from Drake University Law School in 1977. He lives in Clive with his wife, Julie.